

Subject: [External] Redistricting input from the El Cajon Police Officers' Association
Date: Thursday, December 9, 2021 at 8:48:09 AM Pacific Standard Time
From: John Dadian
To: COSD, Redistricting
Priority: High
Attachments: image001.jpg, redistricting letter final.doc



December 7, 2021

San Diego County Redistricting Commission
[REDACTED]

RE: Keep East County San Diego Together

Dear Commissioners,

El Cajon is the sixth largest city in San Diego County 17 mi (27 km) east of [Downtown San Diego](#). Its name originated similarly, from the [Spanish](#) phrase "el cajón," which means "the box" or "the drawer." The El Cajon Police Officers' Association represents the men and women of the El Cajon Police Department who protect and serve the public every minute of every day. We work to support conditions of our membership while helping the community through donations, sponsorships, and charitable events.

Separating the City of El Cajon from an East County Supervisorial district needs to be reconsidered. East County San Diego shares common, distinct "communities of interest" on critical public safety issues and concerns that are different than the more urban, and coastal communities. In the City of El Cajon, our law enforcement officers spend much of their time working with our Middle Eastern Community, as well as the growing homeless population. Each of these groups have a unique set of needs that results in El Cajon depending on its state and local representatives to assist with. Additionally, Gillespie Field is the hub of local economic development and manufacturing in East County which directly impacts and effects residents of El Cajon.

Should any of the current maps be adopted, the representation of the East County San Diego districts would be diluted by replacing a portion of the voice of East County San Diego "communities of interest" with the voice of communities that do not share the same history, culture, character, vision, lifestyles, or public safety needs, thereby disenfranchising the representation of many voices of East San Diego County and especially in the City of El Cajon.

For the above reasons, we formally request that the Independent Redistricting Commission work expeditiously to maintain the City of El Cajon in an East County supervisorial district.

Sincerely,

El Cajon Police Officers' Association Board of Directors

